

Message Text

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14

ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 COME-00 INT-08 EB-11 CIAE-00

INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 L-03 IO-12 RSR-01 /059 W
----- 028436

R 270610 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

INFO OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF SAMOA PAGO PAGO AMERICAN
SAMOA

SECSTATE WASHDC 2610

UNCLAS TOKYO 3561

PASS NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE/ NAKATSU
S/ FW- COA

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EFIS, AQ., KS, US

SUBJECT: CLOSURE KOREAN BOAT REPAIR FACILITY PAGO PAGO

REF: (A) SEOUL 1794, (B) TELCON ATKINSON TO GOV. HAYDON (3/27/73)
(ADVISE REQUESTED REGFISHATT.)

SUMMARY. ROK OFFICE OF FISHERIES HAS APPROACHED AMEMBASSY SEOUL
FOR USG INTERVENTION IN REVERSING DECISION OF GOVERNOR HAYDON
(AMERICA SAMOA) TO CLOSE KOREA DEEP SEA FISHERY ASSOCIATION MARINE
SHOP IN PAGO PAGO, BASED ON INFO REF A AND B, ROK REQUEST IS
UNREALISTIC SINCE ORIGINAL PERMIT CLEARLY TEMPORARY, AMERICA SAMOA
MARINE RAILWAY CAN COMPETENTLY PERFORM NECESSARY WORK, AND
REPAIR COSTS SHOULD ACTUALLY BE REDUCED. END SUMMARY.

1. REGFISHATT DISCUSSED TODAY PROPOSED CLOSURE MACHINE SHOP
KOREA DEEP SEA FISHERY ASSOCIATION PAGO PAGO BY TELEPHONE WITH
GOVERNOR HAYDON.

2. AS POINTED OUT REFTL, A TEMPORARY PERMISSION GIVEN
KDSFA TO OPERATE MACHINE SHOP CLEARLY BASED ON UNDERSTANDING THAT
IT WAS NOT PERMANENT AND WOULD BE CLOSED IF AND WHEN AMERICA
SAMOA DEVELOPED CAPABILITY TO PERFORM NECESSARY REPAIR WORK.
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3. REGFISHATT UNDERSTANDS THIS ACTION FULLY DISCUSSED LAST YEAR WITH THE INDUSTRY (VAN CAMP, STARKIST, ETC.) AND LOCAL KOREAN AND TAIWAN REPRESENTATIVES BUT NOTICE OF TERMINATION DELAYED UNTIL THIS YEAR TO MINIMIZE ANY ECONOMIC HARDSHIP. SIMILAR NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN LOCAL TAIWAN MACHINE SHOP.

4. THE GOVERNOR AND HIS STAFF HAVE CAREFULLY REVIEWED THE CAPABILITY OF AMERICA SAMOA' S MARINE RAILWAY AND ARE CONVINCED THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO COMPETENTLY PERFORM NECESSARY WORK ON KOREAN BOATS BUT TO ASSURE THIS, THEY ARE PREPARED TO HIRE KOREAN ENGINEERS NOW EMPLOYED KDSFA MACHINE SHOP FOR PERIOD OF TIME.

5. THE GOVERNOR FURTHER BELIEVES THAT THE COSTS FOR REPAIR WORK AT AMERICA SAMOA' S MARINE RAILWAY WILL BE LESS THAN THOSE PRESENTLY CHARGED BY KDSFA MACHINE SHOP. FOR EXAMPLE, THE KOREAN MACHINE SHOP NOW CHARGES \$7.50/ HOUR FOR LABOR IN CONTRAST TO \$3.58 HOUR CHARGED BY AMERICA SAMOA' S MARINE RAILWAY.

6. IF OFA CAN SHOW THAT TERMINATION OF THE MACHINE SHOP AT THIS TIME WOULD POSE A SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEM TO THE ASSOCIATION OR THE KOREAN FLEET, THEN KDSFA/ OFA COULD APPEAL TO THE GOVERNOR FOR A DELAY IN THE TERMINATION DATE, ASSUMING OF COURSE THAT THE APPEAL COULD BE WELL JUSTIFIED AND THAT THE PERIOD OF TIME WOULD BE RELATIVELY SHORT.

7. FYI THE GOVERNOR STRONGLY FEELS THAT IN LINE WITH HIS POLICY OF ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY OF AMERICA SAMOA, THE TIME HAS COME FOR THIS ACTIVITY TO BE MADE A LOCAL INDUSTRY. AMERICA SAMOA' S PLANS INCLUDE THE EXPANSION OF FISHERY FACILITIES AT PAGO PAGO (ADDITIONAL COLD STORAGE, ETC) THAT SHOULD MAKE THIS PORT EVEN MORE ATTRACTIVE TO KOREAN BOATS IN THE FUTURE. AS A COUNTRY THAT ONLY RECENTLY HAS RAPIDLY DEVELOPED ITS OWN FISHING/ MARINE INDUSTRY, REGFISHATT HOPES THAT OFA WOULD UNDERSTAND THE GOVERNOR' S POSITION IN TAKING THIS ACTION AND WOULD ASSIST IN THE ORDERLY TRANSITION OF THIS ACTIVITY TO AMERICAN SAMOAN INTERESTS AT THIS TIME.
INGERSKLL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TOKYO03561
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730339/aaaaijcj.tel
Line Count: 106
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION COA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 SEOUL 1794
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Nov-2001 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980102
Subject: CLOSURE KOREAN BOAT REPAIR FACILITY PAGO PAGO
TAGS: EFIS, AQ, KS, US
To: COA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF SAMOA PAGO
SAMOA
SECSTATE WASHDC
SEOUL
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

